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National Agricultural
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Indiana Agricultural
Statistics Service
Purdue University
1148 AGAD Bldg, Rm 223
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1148
(765)494-8371/1-800-363-0469
FAX (756)494-4315/1-800-363-0475

Indiana Crop & Weather Report



Released: Monday, 3PM

June 14, 1999

Vol. 49, #11

West Lafayette, IN 47907

CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 13

Unseasonably hot temperatures with several days above 90 degrees placed stress on crops, pastures and livestock last week according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Storms occurred in isolated areas, resulting in some wind and hail damage. Winter wheat harvest is underway. Major activities included post-emergence spraying, side-dressing corn, baling hay and care of livestock.

CORN AND SOYBEANS

Corn planting is complete. Growth and development is advancing ahead of normal. Height in many corn fields is already above knee-high. Virtually all of the corn planted acreage has emerged. **Soybean planted** acreage advanced to 98 percent complete, far ahead of last year's 87 percent and the 5-year average of 78 percent. By area, soybean planting is 100 percent complete in the north, 99 percent in the central region and 93 percent in the south.

WINTER WHEAT

Winter wheat condition is rated 81 percent good to excellent compared with 64 percent last year. **Wheat harvest** is 1 percent complete compared with 2 percent at this time last year. Most of the harvest has occurred in the southwestern area of the state. Wheat remains in mostly good condition with limited disease problems.

OTHER CROPS

Pasture condition was rated 10 percent excellent, 62 percent good, 25 percent fair, and 3 percent poor. Transplanting of tobacco is 75 percent complete, compared with 45 percent last year and 54 percent for the average. First cutting of alfalfa hay is 95 percent complete compared with 80 percent last year and 62 percent for the 5-year average.

DAYS SUITABLE and SOIL MOISTURE

For the week ending Friday, 6.4 days were rated **suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 5 percent very short, 28 percent short, 63 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 4 percent very short, 18 percent short, 74 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Soybeans Planted	98	96	87	78
Soybeans Emerged	93	84	78	NA
Wheat Harvested	1	NA	2	0
Alfalfa, First Cutting	95	70	80	62

CROP CONDITION

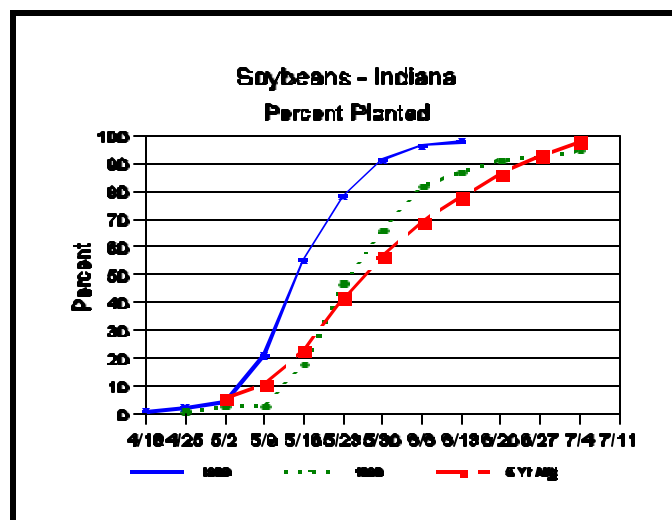
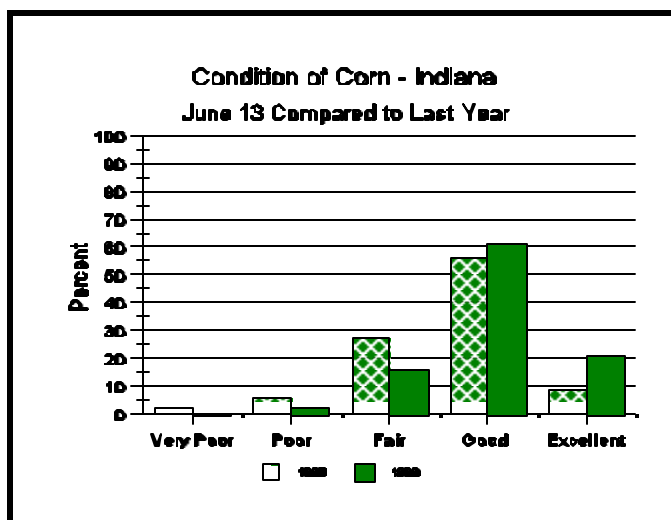
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	0	2	16	61	21
Soybeans	0	1	22	61	16
Winter Wheat	0	2	17	60	21
Pasture	0	3	25	62	10

SOIL MOISTURE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	5	0	1
Short	28	4	3
Adequate	63	74	37
Surplus	4	22	59
Subsoil			
Very Short	4	1	1
Short	18	9	5
Adequate	74	77	50
Surplus	4	13	44

--Ralph W. Gann, State Statistician
--Bud Bever, Agricultural Statistician
E-Mail Address: nass-in@nass.usda.gov
<http://info.aes.purdue.edu/agstat/nass.html>

Crop Progress



Uneven Corn Fields

The buzz at Paul's Pretty Good Pastry Shop late last week centered around corn fields that had come up just fine and looked nice and uniform early on, but have since taken a turn for the worse, especially during the recent hot spell. My own windshield surveys in the last few days confirm that some fields simply look ugly in their unevenness in color and height. What are some of the reasons for this sudden turn of events?

First of all, remember that successful germination and emergence do not guarantee continued success in the development of a corn crop. The second hurdle for that crop is to become "well established" as it continues on its way towards the critical pollination period. Becoming "well established" revolves around the ability of the crop to develop an extensive root system.

An otherwise perfect-looking field can turn "ugly" almost overnight. The causes of such a quick turnaround almost always result from some sort of limitation of root development. Uneven development that is unrelated to uneven emergence often begins

to appear some time after growth stages V4 to V6 (4- to 6-leaf collars) when root development normally begins to speed up dramatically.

In such fields, check for limiting factors such as soil compaction, herbicide injury, low soil pH, poor drainage, or root diseases. The effects of such root-limiting factors are usually accentuated in the presence of excessive heat like much of Indiana has experienced during the past week.

Permanent roots developing horizontally instead of a downward angle suggest the presence of severe soil compaction. Permanent roots (and/or seed roots) developing primarily in the planter furrow suggest the presence of severe sidewall compaction by the planter's double-disc openers.

Visible leaf rolling has been a common correlated symptom of compaction in heat-stressed fields late last week as the restricted root system could not keep up with the transpiration load of the plants. Leaf rolling has also been evident in those lower-lying areas of fields where corn root growth was previously restricted by early excessively wet soils.

(Continued on page 4.)

Weather Data

Week ending Sunday June 13, 1999

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air				Precip.		Avg	April 1, 1999 thru				
	Temperature				Total		4 in	June 13, 1999				
							Soil	Precipitation				
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Bloomington	93	67	81	+11	0.04	1		10.25	+0.03	30	1008	+187
Bluffton	92	67	80	+12	0.46	3	78	7.30	-1.82	27	879	+188
Butlerville	92	64	79	+9	1.07	4	79	9.25	-0.77	38	967	+98
Castleton	90	67	79	+10	0.22	2		9.12	-0.41	36	930	+161
Crawfordsville	93	65	78	+9	0.52	2	77	9.62	-0.11	31	797	+28
Dubois_Ag	91	65	79	+9	0.48	2	86	9.75	-1.12	32	1016	+188
Evansville	91	70	81	+8	0.57	2		12.29	+1.95	29	1144	+152
Farmland	94	61	79	+12	0.01	1	75	7.78	-1.36	35	858	+246
Fort_Wayne	92	67	80	+11	0.10	2		10.81	+2.44	32	843	+193
Freelandville	91	68	80	+9	0.00	0		10.62	+0.05	30	1001	+157
Greenfield	92	67	79	+10	0.21	2		8.08	-1.67	36	927	+191
Indianapolis_AP	92	68	80	+10	0.00	0		9.41	+0.24	34	1009	+215
Indianapolis_SE	90	65	79	+9	0.28	1		8.93	-0.60	38	901	+132
Logansport	93	68	80	+12	0.95	3		10.75	+1.96	33	869	+199
New_Castle	92	66	78	+11	0.50	3		8.16	-2.04	34	781	+151
Perrysville	92	64	80	+11	0.71	2	83	9.44	-0.29	32	955	+222
Plymouth	94	62	80	+12	1.70	2		12.34	+2.90	32	850	+149
Scottsburg	93	66	80	+9	0.21	2		7.44	-2.81	26	1046	+203
Shoals	91	63	78	+8	0.84	1		9.42	-1.74	27	949	+140
South_Bend	95	65	80	+13	0.53	2		9.80	+1.03	32	881	+265
Tell_City	92	70	81	+9	0.00	0		10.07	-1.32	22	1131	+205
Terre_Haute_Ag	94	68	80	+11	0.47	4	79	10.12	+0.25	29	1081	+277
Tipton_Ag	91	66	79	+11	1.25	1	77	9.58	+0.40	29	805	+170
Valparaiso_Ag	91	62	77	+10	0.70	3		10.05	+0.42	31	843	+206
Vincennes_5NE	93	67	80	+9	0.57	3	81	11.73	+1.16	39	1043	+199
Wanatah	94	60	78	+11	0.98	3	82	10.65	+1.56	33	721	+135
W_Lafayette_6NW	94	67	80	+12	0.39	2	86	11.81	+2.65	30	897	+220
Wheatfield	94	64	79	+12	1.58	3		12.74	+3.81	28	866	+251
Winamac	93	64	80	+12	0.06	2		11.09	+2.10	29	861	+192
Young_America	92	67	79	+11	0.68	3		9.50	+0.71	31	808	+138

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Uneven Corn (Continued)

Permanent roots that are 'stubbed off' AND appear to have been fed upon suggest grub or rootworm larvae damage. Permanent roots that are disfigured (swollen, club ends, excessive secondary root development or 'bottle-brushing') suggest herbicide injury. Permanent roots with scattered discolored areas, with water-soaked lesions, suggest a disease infection.

Permanent roots that appear 'stubbed off' and shriveled, but NOT eaten, suggest excessively dry surface soils. Permanent roots that are uniformly discolored (yellowish or brownish) suggest excessively wet soils or excessively low soil pH. Permanent roots whose tips appear 'burned' off suggest injury from excessive amounts of starter fertilizer.

—R. L. (Bob) Nielsen, Agronomy Dept., Purdue University

The INDIANA CROP WEATHER REPORT (USPS 675-770), (ISSN 0442-817X) is issued weekly April through November by the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service, Purdue University, 1148 AgAd Bldg, Rm 223, West Lafayette IN 47907-1148. Second Class postage paid at Lafayette IN. For information on subscribing, send request to above address. POSTMASTER: Send address change to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service, Purdue University, 1148 AgAd Bldg, Rm 223, West Lafayette IN 47907-1148.
